Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 17th November 2026

From the Principal

Rise, all you people, lift up your eyes,
The lantern still guides us,
the flame never dies.
Through trials and triumphs,
our story still unfolds,
With justice and mercy,
our hearts brave and bold.

This week we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or, as we say here at Star of the Sea, Presentation Feast Day. It is a time for us to remember and celebrate Venerable Nano Nagle and the Presentation Sisters, without whom there would be no Star of the Sea Catholic College. It is now 250 years since the Presentation Sisters were formed, so it is good for us to reflect upon why Nano Nagle is still worth remembering and honouring.

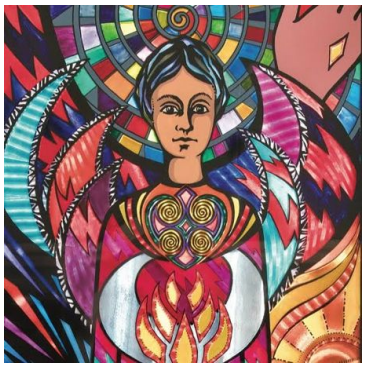
For some people, their life's work dies with them. They may have done great things or helped a lot of people, but when they die, it all stops. Some may even get a statue of themselves placed somewhere, or have their name connected with a building or a street sign, but in the end their work stops.

For a few, their work continues in their name by other people. In our modern society this often means they have a foundation named after them (like the Fred Hollows Foundation) which helps continue their work, but even these have a relatively short life span and usually wind up after a decade or two.

But for a certain number of individuals, their work continues on centuries later, mainly because it was never really their work in the first place. It was actually their calling from God. Nano Nagle is one of those individuals. Her work of educating the poor of Cork and visiting the sick and housebound at night with only a lantern to guide her way, was never really about her. It was about God and it was about how she felt she should live out the Gospel message. The reason it carries on 250 years later is because it is not focused around an individual, but around a charism - a way of expressing the Gospel.

Because of this, there is no real end to the work. It always changes and grows according to the needs of the time. As the chorus to the song *Rise O People* by Jessica Dewhurst says, the story is still unfolding, and we are called to "follow the lantern" to seek justice and mercy wherever we are. We don't particularly need to be part of a religious order to do this, or be in a Presentation school. We can do it wherever we are in whatever situation we are in.

250 years later, Nano's way of following the Gospel hasn't lost its importance. In our Star of the Sea Catholic community we are still called to imitate this way and put it into practice in our own contexts. In this way we can be the people God calls us to be.



Richard Chapman
Principal

Attentiveness, Hospitality and Compassion.

With the help of God we can do a great deal. - Venerable Nano Nagle

Star of the Sea Catholic College acknowledges the Leterremairener people as the traditional custodians of the land on which our school stands.

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Star of the Sea Catholic College

SchoolTV

Religious Education and Faith Development

Heart
Spirituality



Attentiveness
Hospitality
Compassion

Psalm for the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.
He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.



Star of the Sea Mass Times

Mass times for this week:

Sunday 22nd November Mass - 11:00am Sunday

at the George Town Catholic Church (Our Lady Star of the Sea) which is located in Goulburn Street, across the road from the Hall. We will have visiting priests until further notice.

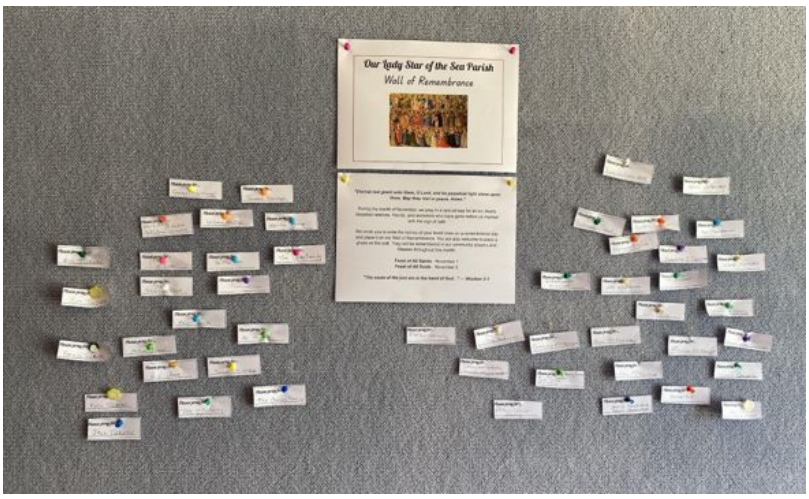
Wall of Remembrance

In the Catholic Church, November is traditionally a time when we remember and pray for those who have died.

In the foyer of the church we have our Wall of Remembrance. People are invited to write the names of friends and family who have died and pin it to the wall.

We remember all of these people in our prayers at Mass on Sunday.

If you would like to contribute to the wall, the church is open this Saturday for Mass at 5pm. Alternatively, you are welcome to call into the office and we can take down the names and pin them up for you.



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Staff Movements

Mr Chapman is away at meetings tomorrow and Thursday.

Presentation Feast Day Mass

We will have a whole-school Mass for Presentation Feast Day this Friday 20th November at 10am. Parents, friends and parishioners are most welcome to attend.

Donations for Presentation Feast Day

For our Presentation Feast Day this Friday 20th November, students can wear casual clothes. But rather than bringing in a gold coin, we ask all students to bring in an item of non-perishable foodstuff that we can donate to Vinnies. It can be Christmas-themed if you want!

2027 Book Packs

Information regarding 2027 book packs was released on Compass last week (or via email for families new to the College in 2027). If the book packs are ordered before December 4th, delivery is free. Sounds like a great Christmas present opportunity!

Enrolments

Kinder 2027 - Enrolments for Kinder 2027 are still open. We encourage all forms to be handed into the College office as soon as possible. Our ***Little Stars*** transition program for our 2027 Kinder students has begun.

2027 enrolments - because we will have different class structures next year, spaces are available in most Primary classes for 2027. Families are welcome to call into the office for an enrolment form or download one from our website (starsea.tas.edu.au). There are also spaces in Year 10, although most of the other secondary classes are full or close to.

The 2027 Year 7 class had their whole-day transition today.

School Lunches

School lunches will be changed this week due to Presentation Feast Day
Wednesday - Grades 3-6
Thursday - Prep to Grade 2

Term 4 Primary Assembly Roster

The following classes will be leading assemblies over the coming weeks:

Please note that this roster may change

WEEK 5	Thursday 19th November	12.10 pm	Grade 6
WEEK 6	Thursday 26th November	12.10 pm	Grade 4/5
WEEK 7	Thursday 3rd December	12.10 pm	Grade 3/4
WEEK 8	Thursday 10th December	12.10 pm	Grade 1/2

From the Deputy Principal

Chess Tournament

Monday November 23rd

Entries close this week



On Monday 23rd November we will hold our Star of the Sea Chess Tournament. This will be held at school in the Hall. Students who have some experience in playing Chess are very welcome to enter the competition. This event is only for Star of the Sea students and is a fantastic opportunity for any students interested in Chess to test out their skills. Entry forms are available on the prayer table outside Mrs Robotham's office. Entries need to be completed by Thursday of this week.

Presentation Day

On Friday November 20th we will gather as a school community to celebrate the Presentation Sisters as part of our Presentation Day events. In the morning we will gather in the Church for a service focused on the role the Presentation Sisters have played in the establishment of the school and the importance of the legacy of Nano Nano and the order she founded. Students are invited to wear casual clothes and are asked to bring a non-perishable grocery item to donate. There will be a range of food options available for lunch and more information about these options will be published next week. In the afternoon there will be a range of activities for students to participate in and these will occur in the Primary yard area and within some of the classrooms, as well as the gym. We look forward to seeing everyone participating in this fantastic school event.

George Town Christmas Parade and Christmas Carnival

Star of the Sea will be participating in the George Town Christmas Parade and Christmas Carnival in December. All students in the school are invited and very welcome to be a part of this event. Some planning and preparation will occur in the coming weeks and more information about what students are able to wear for this event will be shared in the coming weeks. If you would like your child to be included please indicate their involvement by completing the Compass event which will be published soon.

K-2 Athletics Carnival













Our early learning program, SetUp, is on every Thursday during term time between 9:00am and 10:30am in the Kinder room and is for children from birth to 5 years of age.

It is completely free and all are welcome.

Mrs Ros Ashenden is running SetUp in Term 4.

SETUP for SUCCESS

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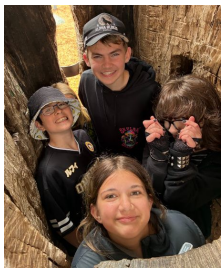
Year 5 / 6 Camp

Last week, the students in Year 5 and Year 6 travelled down to the southern part of Tasmania for a three day camp. After exploring Campbell Town and Oatlands to break up the long bus trip to Dodges Ferry, the students were thankful of the low tide and had a wonderful time exploring the rock pools. The challenge of rock climbing and the crate stacking climb was an exciting way to end the first day. Day Two included exploring Port Arthur Historical Site where the students competed in the 'Amazing Race', a delightful boat cruise around the harbour, hanging out in the Games Room and toasting marshmallows and drinking hot chocolate by the campfire. An early morning on Day Three commenced with the final cabin inspections! The students then spent extra time discovering many of the oldest functioning structures in Tasmania including Richmond Bridge and the oldest Primary School (which was actually built by the teacher and was only one classroom). The adventure of participating in the 'Old Hobart Town' challenge, followed by a fun filled visit to the famous Gingerbread Shop and the Lollie Shop for some treats (which we had to wait until we got back home to consume), was a fantastic and exciting end to our Year 5/6 camp.

















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Interested in being part of the George Town Youth Impact Council for 2027?

The George Town Youth Impact Council is made up of individuals aged 12-25 that live or attend school in the George Town municipality and that have a heart to help shape a positive future for all young people in the community.
They are passionate about representing young people about issues, concerns and opportunities that can be generated at a local government level, whilst having a finger on the pulse of state and national influences.
New members receive free merch, participate in regular meetings, volunteer at youth-led and Council events, have the chance to attend forums, trips and camps, and create new opportunities for local youth.

Drop in to the Launchpad Youth Space on a Wednesday to find out more about the opportunity to be part of a youth-led team that makes a real impact! Ask questions, discover new programs, meet the team.
Open to new potential members every Wednesday in November

Nov 18 - open between 3.00-5.00pm
Nov 25 - open between 3.00-5.00pm

Applications are currently open and can be found at https://georgetown.tas.gov.au/youth-impact-council

Stars of the Week - 12th November 2026

Kinder	**Evie Rees**	For the fantastic way she has fitted into Kindergarten at Star of the Sea. It seems like she has always belonged!
Prep	**Archie Rees**	For a great start to his time in Prep. Love the way you have settled in and tried to give new things a go!
Grade 1/2	**Temperance Targett**	For enthusiastic participation in our Role Play about friendship.
Grade 3/4	**Ashton Goodridge**	For consistent effort across all learning areas.
Grade 4/5	**Isabel Walker**	For her excellent application and effort during Mathematics lessons.
Grade 6	**Matilda Jacobs**	For consistently demonstrating an exceptionally high standard in mathematics. Keep up the great work!

Calendar Term 4 2026

Term 4 - 2026	
Tuesday 17th November	Year 7 2027 transition day
Wednesday 18th November	Year 8 Art Exhibition
Friday 20th November	Presentation Feast Day
Monday 30th November	Advent Prayer; Year 10 Exam week begins
Tuesday 1st December	Magic Faraway Tree Performance
Monday 7th December	Advent Prayer; Year 10 Service Day and Big Day Out
Tuesday 8th December	Last day for Year 10s; Final Prayer and Awards
Wednesday 9th December	Primary Transition Morning
Thursday 10th December	Year 10 Leavers Dinner
Friday 11th December	Grade 6 Breakfast and Prayer; George Town Christmas Parade
Monday 14th December	Advent Prayer
Tuesday 15th December	Primary Nativity
Wednesday 16th December	Last day for students; End of Year Assembly
Thursday 17th December	Last day for staff

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